

Appl. No. 10/660,528
Amdt. Dated April 19, 2005
Reply to Office action of March 30, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-19 (Withdrawn)

20. (Original) A truss for spanning between an opposed pair of supports in a shoring system, the truss having at least one adjustable member with an adjustable length, wherein adjusting the length of the adjustable member causes the truss to become pre-cambered.

21. (Currently Amended) A truss for spanning between supports in a shoring system comprising,

a) one or more truss members forming a generally horizontal cord having a middle and a pair of opposed ends; ~~and,~~

b) a pair of diagonal members having first and second ends; and,

wherein,

c) ~~the an~~ adjustable member is oriented generally vertically and ~~has~~ having an upper end and a lower end; wherein,

d) the upper end of the adjustable member is connected to the middle of the horizontal cord of the truss;

e) the lower end of the adjustable member is connected to a first end of each of the diagonal members; and,

f) the second ends of the diagonal members are connected one to each of the ends of the horizontal cord.

22. (Original) The truss of claim 21 further comprising,

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- a) one or more truss members forming a second generally horizontal cord generally parallel to and above the generally horizontal cord; and,
- b) a plurality of struts between the generally horizontal cord and the second generally horizontal cord.

23. (Original) A truss for spanning between an opposed pair of supports in a shoring system, the truss comprising,

- a) a first truss section having first section upper and lower generally horizontal cords separated by first section struts;
- b) a second truss section having second section upper and lower generally horizontal cords separated by second section struts,

wherein the second section upper and lower cords can be attached to first ends of the first section upper and lower cords in a plurality of locations such that the truss may be assembled in a plurality of widths.

24. (Original) The truss of claim 23 further comprising a third truss section having third section upper and lower generally horizontal cords separated by third section struts,

wherein the third section upper and lower cords can be attached to second ends of the first section upper and lower cords in a plurality of locations such that the truss may be assembled in a plurality of widths.

25. (Original) The truss of claim 23 having at least one adjustable member with an adjustable length, wherein adjusting the length of the adjustable member causes the truss to become pre-cambered.

26. (Currently Amended) The truss of claim 23 wherein the truss further comprises,

- a) a pair of diagonal members having first and second ends; and,
wherein,

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b) ~~the an~~ adjustable member is oriented generally vertically and ~~has~~ having an upper end and a lower end;

wherein,

c) the upper end of the adjustable member is connected to the middle of the lower cord of the truss;

d) the lower end of the adjustable member is connected to the first end of each of the diagonal members; and,

e) the second ends of the diagonal members are connected one to each of the distal ends of the truss sections.

27. (Original) The truss of claim 23 having pairs of cords, each pair of cords comprising a cord of the first truss section and an adjacent cord of the second truss section, wherein the pairs of cords are slidable along the longitudinal axes of the cords within and with respect to each other.

28. (Original) The truss of claim 27 wherein the cords of each pair of cords have a plurality of engaging surfaces for engaging each other.

29. (Original) The truss of claim 27 wherein the cords of each pair of cords have strut attaching surfaces for bolting struts to the cords and the engaging surfaces maintain a separation between the strut attaching surfaces of the pairs of cords at least as large as the sum of the thickness of the heads of bolts used to bolts struts to the cords, such that the pairs of cords may slide relative to each other without the heads of the bolts associated with either of the first or second truss section contacting the heads of the bolts associated with the other truss section.

30. (Original) The truss of claim 29 wherein the cords of each pair of cords are generally in the shape of C-channels oriented such that the flanges of the cord of one of the pair extend to the left and the flanges of the other cord extend to the right of the web and the webs provide the strut attaching surfaces.

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31. (Original) The truss of claim 23 wherein the cords of at least one of the cords of the first truss section or the second truss section are provided with one or more lines of holes, the holes being spaced horizontally in each line of holes by a selected increment and wherein at least one matching hole is provided in the other truss section, such that the truss sections may be bolted together to provide a plurality of spans differing by the selected increment.

32. (Currently Amended) The truss of claim 28 wherein the cords are shaped such that the cords may be initially put together in a rough alignment but bolting the pair of cords ~~are bolted together~~ draws them into a more nearly co-linear alignment.

33-34 (Withdrawn)